

**TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING**

**Wednesday November 30, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Charlie Goodspeed, Mark Vallone, Joe Bodge, Kim Sullivan, Don MacLaren; Planner Brittany Howard; Secretary Phyllis McDonough.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Goodspeed called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**ANGELLE & DAVID BURNHAM** – Chairman Goodspeed read notice for a Variance concerning Article IV, Section 4.3 Permitted Uses for a Tattoo Studio. Parcel is located at 133 Main Street (Tax Map 029 – Lot 169) located in the Central Business District. Abutters present: Paul & Elizabeth Gufstason.

Angelle Burnham came before the Board to explain her proposal for a tattoo parlor. She explained she has been in business for 17 years in Manchester, and is looking to relocate to this area and to start tattooing the traditional way and be more private and have for appointment only.

Chairman Goodspeed asked about the tattooing for medical reasons. Angelle Burnham explained she has helped people with scar covering on their body.

Chairman Goodspeed addressed the five criteria –

Bodge questioned the applicant’s explanation “at the present time doing by appointment only” and do not plan on put out signage. He stated people will still be walking in. Angelle explained people sometimes assume they can walk in, and currently they do by appointment and would like to avoid that. Bodge stated his concern is when the tattoo studio sells, that means another tattoo studio can go in, and has concerns with it going from an upscale tattoo studio to something no so upscale. Angelle stated they have no plans of selling, and noted the way it’s done in Manchester there are zoning guidelines that it can’t be within 800 feet away from a residential and 500 feet away from another tattoo studio. Bodge also added this is a historic district in town.

David Burnham the best thing in this new location is it’s on the second floor and not as easy to get to, and feels this will make a difference on being a walk-in shop.

Mrs. Gufstason stated she understands the reasons that the Board has with this request being a tattoo parlor in that area. She explained it would not create a problem with parking as they may only have two or three clients a day, and the sign would not say tattooing, only the name of the business. Mrs. Gufstason also stated she did not understand the meaning for the hardship. Howard explained this meaning to her.

Bodge noted that while they have a wonderful business plan and once they change that zone it becomes a Card Blanc. He stated he has a hard time with it being in the historic district and as a Board they are being asked to change a zone.

MacLaren stated he does not see a hardship in this application, as it was explained the Planning Board are the ones that draft an ordinance for the people to vote on and that has not been done.

Chairman Goodspeed read Susan McGeough's letter for the record.

Sullivan questioned if this went before the Planning Board could they put a limit on number of people and occupancy. Howard explained that limit would come from the fire department.

Chairman Goodspeed polled the Board on how they felt about this being a hardship. The Board as a whole stated they found no hardship.

Chairman Goodspeed request before the board is shortstopping the legal step feels Bodge explained he has no problem with a tattoo parlor; his only concern is the Board dictating what the Town voted on. MacLaren concurred with Bodge.

Howard explained to the applicant if the application were to be withdrawn, the applicant has the right to go to the Planning Board and request this type of business be added to their zoning or do a warrant article to go before the Town in March.

Angelle Burnham stated, for the record, she will withdraw her application and would like information from Brittany on how to proceed.

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2016 FOR APPROVAL** – MacLaren moved, Sullivan seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 16, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

**PREVIOUSLY APPROVED MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 FOR SIGNATURE** – The minutes of September 28, 2016 were duly signed.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Bodge moved, Vallone seconded the motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL NOTIFICATION: November 30, 2016 - Minutes of November 16, 2016 were approved. Minutes of September 28, 2016 were duly signed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis McDonough,  
Zoning Board of Adjustment Secretary